

MORE SECRET HISTORY,

TERRORISM IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE MODE IN WHICH THE RIFLE CLUBS WERE

TURNED TO ACCOUNT.

A series of dispatches are given below which reveal the secret orders under which the South Carolina rifle clubs acted in December, 1876, when the country was still agitated with the Presidential question.

HOW THE DEMOCRATS SAVED SOUTH CAROLINA.

"FUN AT THE 'STATE FAIR'—A LEAF FROM THE HISTORY OF THE PALMETTO STATE."

There were exciting times in Columbia, S. C., during the early days of December, 1876. Two Houses of Representatives were in session in the same room at the State House, each threatening to eject the other, and only prevented from coming into armed collision by the presence of General Ruger and the Federal troops he commanded. As early as the 2d or 3d of December it became apparent that the State would be counted for Hayes, and that an attempt would be made to inaugurate Governor Chamberlain before the close of the week. On the 5th The TRIBUNE's special dispatches mentioned the sudden appearance in Columbia of several thousand armed men, most of them with their blankets at their necks and knapsacks at their backs, reminding old residents of the city very forcibly of the days when Confederate soldiers were encamped about the Capital of the State.

The presence of these rifle-clubs at Columbia is history; how they were brought there is a story that has never been told. The official account of it, herewith given, presents a vivid picture of Southern society in times of great political excitement.

The first intimation that Governor Hampton would need an armed force at the Capital is contained in the following telegram:

L. COLEMAN, Dec. 2, 1876.

R. H. KENNEDY, Greenville, S. C.—Fun expected at the fair this week. Prepare for high sport. Let best boys come, but not too many, unless well headed. V. E. McKEE.

The next day the arrangements for securing a large attendance at the "fair" seem to have been much more complete, as the following dispatches show:

II. Dec. 3, '76.

(Strictly Confidential.) J. H. EVINS or H. BLESSINGAME, Spartanburg, S. C.

For prudential reasons thought best to secure presence of few true and prudent men from different counties, so as to prevent any unnecessary ostentation to visit State fair! Can't you get Captain Davis to start a little earlier and reach Alison in time for passengers to reach Columbia by twelve o'clock? If train does not meet his train at Alison, train will be delayed so as to get the people here. Has given up his

train and will go to Columbia as soon as it reaches Alison. Men will come from Greenville by Air Line road-to-night to take Spartanburg train for Columbia. Extra coach for them. Send this telegram to some Union in that some men there can concur.

T. STOKE FARROW.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 3, 1876.

R. M. SIMS.

IV. Dec. 3, 1876.

J. M. THOMAS, Barb Hill, S. C.—Rushing to our members to-morrow. Bring forty or fifty men to-night as a precaution. R. M. SIMS.

V. Dec. 3, 1876.

JAS. ALLEN, Florence, S. C.:

Things are restless here. Chamberlain may attempt to be inaugurated to-morrow. Prudent reasons demand the presence of true men from the country. Could you and others come to-night to visit the fair?

E. G. HOWARD.

VI. Dec. 3, 1876.

W. L. MAULDIN, Greenville, S. C.:

Have telegraphed to you. Perhaps you had better consider this. Extra train may leave Greenville to-night. Bring best men, and tool chest for fair. Answer. V. E. McKEE.

VII. Dec. 3, 1876.

W. L. MAULDIN, Greenville, S. C.:

An extra train will leave Spartanburg to-night, and if I don't notify you that we will leave Greenville you will not be able to get to the fair. Answer. V. E. McKEE.

X. Dec. 3, 1876.

Major J. G. BARBER, Columbus, Ga.—Have modified my views about electoral vote. The course Hampton suggests is, I fear, necessary. JAS. CONNER.

XI. Dec. 3, 1876.

General JAS. CONNER, Charleston:

The Hunkader Club on the way here for a row to-morrow. See Pickens and delay train till evening. WADE HAMPTON.

XII. Dec. 3, 1876.

WM. T. PELTON, Everett House, N. Y.:

Literally charley root inefficient if not whence Hewitt is from. The telegraph between headquarters and lottery syndicate with century broadsword et cetera. Extra office occupation were shattered obnoxious parlor imbricated when dials lot. (No. sig.)

And this:

XIII. Dec. 3, 1876.

WM. T. PELTON, Everett House, N. Y.:

Instantaneous mony supersecretive oil to Phillip Stephen diary and incalculable absent still other your firestone givernon bowl queen discontended superstructure Gingers here.

It is not at all remarkable that the "Queen" was "discontented" with the "superstructure" almost anybody would be.

On the 4th of December the Wallace (Democratic) House of Representatives withdrew from the State House and thereafter met at Caroline Hall. On the same day, the Supreme Court of the State held a rule against Speaker Macbeth (of the Republican House), to show cause why he should not deliver the returns received by him as Speaker, to General Wallace, Speaker of the Democratic House.

Mr. Macbeth, answering, set forth the facts of his election, and denied the jurisdiction of the court over the returns. What was going on outside of the court-room is briefly but graphically described by one of the ridehers in the following dispatch sent to a friend at home.

XIV. Dec. 4, 1876.

THOMAS BRICE, Black Stock, Fairfield Co.:

We are all safe. Keep all your men in readiness so to move to-morrow. H. J. CAMERON.

XV. Dec. 4, 1876.

To Dr. W. E. AIKEN, Chester, S. C. Dec. 4, '76.

A. C. HAMBELL:

Jim's telegraphed for men. Do you want them to-night?

JULIUS MILLS.

XVI. Dec. 4, 1876.

To THOMAS BRICE, Black Stock, Fairfield Co.:

We are all safe. Keep all your men in readiness so to move to-morrow. H. J. CAMERON.

XVII. Dec. 4, 1876.

To Dr. W. E. AIKEN:

Men pouring in by hundreds. Hampton sure: ingathering to-morrow or skirmishing. Bring my black suit. E. W. AIKEN.

It seems, too, that Mr. Manton Marble had a following in the South Carolina pine, as witness the following:

XVIII. Dec. 4, 1876.

Colonel JOHN B. PALMER, President, A. C. & A. C. R. R.:

Very important that Marble or Cortez June 1st for restoration of Tompkins-square as a public park, to be approved and adopted, and that he is requested to prepare a working plan for the same, and that the work shall begin immediately. The Commissioners have \$60,000 with which to begin the work; they do not know exactly how much will best before it is finished.

RESTORATION OF TOMPKINS-SQUARE.

In regard to the changes at Tompkins-square, the Park Commissioners adopted a resolution yesterday, that the plan presented by Mr. Manton Marble, superintending architect, for the restoration of Tompkins-square as a public park, be approved and adopted, and that he is requested to prepare a working plan for the same, and that the work shall begin immediately. The Commissioners have \$60,000 with which to begin the work; they do not know exactly how much will best before it is finished.

AN EXCURSION TRAIN WRECKED.

THIRTY-FIVE PERSONS WOUNDED, THREE FATALLY.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 28.—A serious accident occurred to an excursion train on the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, near Lockwood, Mich., about noon to-day, by which thirty-five persons were injured, several seriously, and three fatally. Two coaches jumped the track and went down an embankment. The train was filled with an excursion party from Mansfield and Lexington, bound for Grand Rapids. The wounded were taken to Grand Rapids for medical attendance. The cause of the accident is supposed to have been a broken rail.

FIREARM'S RESTORATION OF TOMPKINS-SQUARE.

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THE TRIBUNE LOCAL OBSERVATIONS.

MIDNIGHT WEATHER REPORT.

GOVERNMENT INDICATIONS.

Synopsis for the past four hours.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29, 1 a.m.—The pressure is high in New-England and Nova Scotia, and highest and sulkiest in the Northwest, and lowest in Tennessee and the Ohio Valley. Occasional rain has fallen, except in the Northwest, New-England and East Gulf States. Northwesterly winds prevail in the Northwest Lake region, Tennessee and the Ohio Valley; easterly in New-England; elsewhere they are variable, but generally blowing from the south. The temperature has fallen in the Upper Lake region and Northwest; elsewhere has remained nearly stationary.

Indications.

In New-England, partly cloudy weather; occasional light rain, variable winds, mostly easterly, stationary pressure and temperature.

For the Eastern and Atlantic States, partly cloudy weather, occasional rain, but southerly winds, becoming variable, mostly stationary temperature and pressure.

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